GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5016
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2015
VARIOUS TRIBUNALS
Ninama Shri Manshankar;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Pandula Dr. Ravindra Babu ;Rajesh Shri M. B.

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Tribunals/Appellate Tribunals including special Tribunals functioning in the country along with the annual budgetary expenditure thereon, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to set up Appellate Tribunals for expeditious disposal of pending cases and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to streamline and bring uniformity in the administration of the Tribunals in appointment, removal and terms and conditions of service of tribunal members and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to set up unified IT infrastructure to keep track of the cases dwelt by these Tribunals and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether any committee or Group of Ministers (GoM) has been set up to consider the proposal to bring all these Tribunals under the Ministry of Law and Justice and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA)

(a) to (e): Details of Tribunals/Appellate Tribunals and their annual budgetary expenditure are not centrally maintained as they are being administered by different Ministries/Departments of the Government. In pursuance of observations of the Supreme Court in its judgments in the L. Chandra Kumar case (AIR 1997 SC 1125-1155) and R. Gandhi case (CA 3067 of 2004), the Government undertook inter − ministerial consultations and decided that neither was there any need nor was it feasible to bring all Tribunals under the administrative control of one nodal Ministry/Department. In pursuance of directions of the Supreme Court in its order dated 04.12.2012 in the Rajiv Garg case (W.P. (C) 120/2012), the Government constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) on 13.03.2013 to consider and examine all issues relating to uniformity of retirement age, conditions relating to tenure of appointment and provisions concerning residential and office accommodation etc. The GoM recommended to provide uniformity of conditions of service for Chairpersons and Members of 26 Tribunals, Appellate Tribunals and Other Authorities who are headed either by a retired Judge of the Supreme Court or the High Court. The Tribunals, Appellate Tribunals and Other Authorities (Conditions of Service) Bill, 2014 has been introduced in Rajya Sabha on 19th February, 2014. However, this Bill does not provide for any mechanism to set up unified IT infrastructure to keep track of cases dealt by the Tribunals.